



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 5, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Spring fieldwork continued amidst scattered snow and rain events, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Much of the state, except central and portions of extreme northwestern counties, were experiencing abnormally to severe drought conditions, according to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report. In northeastern counties, light moisture was received. Producers continued preparing for spring planting and barley planting picked up in some localities. Producers calving and lambing continued to benefit from mostly mild weather. Concerns were noted for rangeland and non-irrigated crop moisture needs going forward, especially with recent high winds. In east central counties, some areas received good moisture from rain and snowfall, while others remained very dry. Winter wheat in Kiowa County was reportedly in very poor condition due to lack of moisture and damaging high winds. Some producers in the county were chiseling wheat fields or in the process of contacting their crop insurance adjuster. In the San Luis Valley, last week remained dry and reports noted moisture was needed. Barley planting progressed although producers were awaiting irrigation water in order to continue. In southeastern counties, light moisture was received but high winds quickly negated any benefits. Reports noted winter wheat was being chiseled and some producers had filed for losses on their acreage. As of March 27, 2020, snowpack in Colorado was 104 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 94 percent and 96 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 83 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 42 percent average and 58 percent light. Cattle death loss was 70 percent average and 30 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	20	8	14	10
Onions				
Planted	3	1	1	12
Winter wheat				
Pastured.....	6	8	17	11
Jointed.....	2	1	5	4
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	73	62	67	67
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	71	58	72	58

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.3	4.9	5.5	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	12	--	9
Short.....	22	22	5	23
Adequate.....	64	65	90	65
Surplus.....	--	1	5	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	7	8	1	10
Short.....	20	24	12	26
Adequate.....	73	67	84	62
Surplus.....	--	1	3	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	4	4	2	8
Poor.....	9	9	7	20
Fair.....	28	30	49	37
Good.....	57	51	38	32
Excellent.....	2	6	4	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	12	11	--	3
Poor.....	15	16	3	12
Fair.....	25	22	27	33
Good.....	45	45	53	44
Excellent.....	3	6	17	8
Livestock				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	--
Poor.....	4	4	3	2
Fair.....	23	27	22	19
Good.....	63	60	68	71
Excellent.....	9	8	6	8

NA – not available

(--) – zero